

**HAN MANTRI**) be pleased to state :

(a) the reason why the Shipping Corporation of India has been allowed to place orders for two ships on a British Shipyard although East European countries are willing to receive orders for ships against rupee payment, and

(b) the reasons for allocation of Rs 20 97 crores out of the UK Project aid to India for the order of these ships considering that in view of our foreign exchange difficulties the orders could have been placed with the East European countries ?

**MINISTER OF PARLIAMINARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANS-PORT (SANSADIYA KARYA TATHA NAUWAHAN AUR PARIWAHAN MANTRI) (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR)** (a) Possibilities of placing orders on East Europe in Shipyard are being availed of to the fullest extent, in the light of the ability and willingness of those yards to take orders for ships of the kind we need on acceptable payment and delivery terms. However, considering the magnitude of the shipping tonnage that has to be acquired, orders for ships have necessarily to be placed in a large number of countries including both West and East European countries.

(b) Apart from what has been stated in reply to (a) above, it may be added that British aid is extended to us on very soft terms and the allocation of a portion of it for the purchases of ships represents a very good use of that aid in the context of our foreign exchange difficulties.

**Inquiry into the working of private Companies**

724 **SHRI SHYAMANANDAN MISHRA** Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS (KAMPANY KARYA MANTRI) be pleased to state

(a) the number of enquiries held and completed into the affairs of private companies during the last three years with the names of those companies and

(b) the action taken by Government on the finding and recommendations made as a result of these enquiries ?

**THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (KAMPANI KARYA MANTRI) (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY)** (a) and (b) Information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House

**Ratio between Highest and Lowest Income in India**

725 **SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to appoint an expert committee to fix the ratio between the lowest and the highest income that should be permitted to prevail in the country, and

(b) Government's view on the Mathai Fixation Enquiry Commission's recommendations in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (VITTA MANTRI) (SHRI YESHWANT RAO CHAVAN)** (a) No, Sir

(b) The Taxation Enquiry Commission had suggested that there should be a ceiling on net personal incomes after tax which should not generally exceed thirty times the prevailing average family income in the country and that this objective should be achieved by stages over a period of time. The Commission had also expressed the view that the accomplishment of this objective must be related to an integrated approach along several directions, and this should embrace not only charges in fiscal policy but also an acceleration of the tempo of economic development and a widening of employment and production opportunities. The Government is in broad agreement with this approach.

**Loss suffered by Air India in February, 1971.**

726. **SHRI C. CHITTIBABU** ; Will